

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Claims 7 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner states that each of the claims recites "density" for the alumina with units of grams per square centimeter. The Examiner further states that these units are not appropriate for density nor are the numerical values appropriate for the density of alumina of any origin. Applicant has amended each of claims 7 and 17 to reflect density as g/cm^3 . Support for this amendment can be found in lines 1-4, at page 8 of the specification. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 7-9, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kwan et al. The Examiner states that the reference is seen as providing sufficient guidance to produce aqueous compositions comprising polyurethane, fumed alumina, and water in relative proportions such as claimed in the present application.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Furthermore, claims 20 and 21 have been deemed allowable. Applicants amended independent claims 1 and 11 to include the limitations of claims 3 and 14, respectively. Claim 13 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 2. Accordingly, the subject matter of objected to, but otherwise allowable claims, has been incorporated into independent claims 1 and 11. In addition, applicants note that newly added claim 22 is a combination of claims 1 and 2. Claim 2 was indicated as being objected to but otherwise containing allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant submits that all independent claims of the present application are directed to subject matter allowable over the prior art.

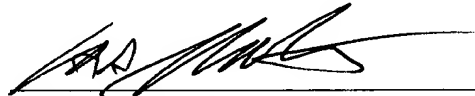
CONCLUSION

If any fee is in conjunction with the filing of this response, applicants authorize deduction of that fee from Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

In view of the above, applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott A. McCollister', is written over a horizontal line.

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